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REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
GROUP ART UNIT 3613

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s) : Christian LAUBLE et al.
Serial No. : 09/485,074
Filed : September 27, 2000
For : VIBRATION DAMPER FOR A TUBULAR DRIVE SHAFT
Examiner : Melody M. Burch
Art Unit : 3613

I hereby certify that this communication is being deposited with the United States Postal Service in first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, 1700 Leavenworth, D.C., 20231, on

Date 3/25/02 Atty's File No. 12-478

Atty's Signature R. L. Mayer

RICHARD L. MAYER
KENYON & KENYON

REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

SIR:

In response to the Office Action of October 25, 2001, kindly amend the above-captioned application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 9, 11 and 17 to 20 as follows:

9. (Twice Amended) A vibration damper for a tubular propeller shaft in the drive train of a motor vehicle, the vibration damper comprising:

D1 a sleeve, the sleeve defining a radial and circumferential direction;

a mass body mounted concentrically in the sleeve;

a plurality of rubber spring elements for mounting the mass body to the sleeve; and

a plurality of flexible stop elements disposed circumferentially between each adjacent pair of spring elements and disposed between the mass body and the sleeve to define a discrete space to limit a vibration travel of the mass body at least in the radial direction, wherein each stop element extends over a larger circumferential angle than the spring elements and occupy a large portion of a space between the mass body, the spring elements and the sleeve.

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